



U.S. Department of Justice

Nathaniel R. Mendell
Acting United States Attorney
District of Massachusetts

Main Reception: (617) 748-3100

John Joseph Moakley United States Courthouse
1 Courthouse Way
Suite 9200
Boston, Massachusetts 02210
August 3, 2021

Leonard Milligan, Esq.
50 Congress Street, Suite 600
Boston, MA 02109

Re: United States v. Andre Echevarria
Criminal No. 20-10136-RGS-9

Dear Mr. Milligan:

The United States Attorney for the District of Massachusetts (“the U.S. Attorney”) and your client, Andre Echevarria (“Defendant”), agree as follows, pursuant to Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure (“Rule”) 11(c)(1)(C):

1. Change of Plea

Defendant will plead guilty to so much of Count One as charges conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute and to distribute cocaine, in violation of 21 U.S.C. § 846. Defendant admits that he committed the crime specified in this count and is in fact guilty of it.

2. Penalties

Defendant faces the following mandatory minimum and maximum penalties pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 841(b)(1)(C): incarceration for up to 20 years; supervised release for at least three years up to life; a fine of up to \$1,000,000; a mandatory special assessment of \$100; and forfeiture to the extent charged in the Indictment.

Defendant understands that, if he is not a United States citizen, pleading guilty may affect Defendant’s immigration status. Defendant agrees to plead guilty regardless of any potential immigration consequences, even if Defendant’s plea results in being automatically removed from the United States.

3. Rule 11(c)(1)(C) Plea

In accordance with Rule 11(c)(1)(C), if the Court accepts this Plea Agreement, the Court

must include the agreed disposition in the judgment. If the Court rejects any part of this Plea Agreement, the U.S. Attorney may void the agreement and/or Defendant may withdraw from it. Defendant may not withdraw his plea for any other reason.

Should the U.S. Attorney void the agreement and/or Defendant moves to withdraw his guilty plea, Defendant agrees to waive any defenses based upon statute of limitations, the constitutional protection against pre-indictment delay, and the Speedy Trial Act for all charges that could have been brought as of the date of this Plea Agreement.

4. Sentencing Guidelines

The parties agree on the following facts:

- i. On or about October 11, 2019, Defendant purchased approximately 7 grams of cocaine;
- ii. On or about April 4, 2020, Defendant purchased approximately 187 grams of cocaine; and
- iii. On or about April 7, 2020, Defendant returned approximately 62 grams from his April 4, 2020 purchase and received substitute cocaine of a similar quantity.

The U.S. Attorney takes the position, based on those facts and the following calculations, that Defendant's total "offense level" under the Guidelines is 17:

- a) Defendant's base offense level is 18, because Defendant is responsible for between 200 and 300 grams of cocaine (USSG § 2D1.1(c)(11));
- b) Defendant's offense is increased by two because Defendant possessed a dangerous weapon (USSG § 2D1.1(b)(1)); and
- c) Defendant's offense level is decreased by three levels, because Defendant has accepted responsibility for Defendant's crime (USSG § 3E1.1).

Defendant takes the position that total offense level is 15 and that his base offense level is 16, because he is responsible for between 100 and 200 grams of cocaine (USSG § 2D1.1(c)(12)). Defendant otherwise agrees with the U.S. Attorney's position.

Defendant understands that the Court is not required to follow these calculations. Defendant also understands that the government will object to any reduction in his sentence based on acceptance of responsibility, and may be released from the parties' agreed-upon disposition in Paragraph 5 if: (a) at sentencing, Defendant (himself or through counsel) indicates that he does not fully accept responsibility for having engaged in the conduct underlying each of the elements of the crime to which he is pleading guilty; or (b) by the time of sentencing, Defendant has committed a new federal or state offense, or has in any way obstructed justice.

Nothing in this Plea Agreement affects the U.S. Attorney's obligation to provide the Court and the U.S. Probation Office with accurate and complete information regarding this case.

5. Agreed Disposition

The parties agree on the following sentence:

- a) incarceration for 41 months;
- b) a fine within the Guidelines sentencing range as calculated by the parties, unless the Court finds that Defendant is not able, and is not likely to become able, to pay a fine;
- c) 36 months of supervised release;
- d) a mandatory special assessment of \$100, which Defendant must pay to the Clerk of the Court by the date of sentencing; and
- e) forfeiture as set forth in Paragraph 7.

6. Waiver of Appellate Rights and Challenges to Conviction or Sentence

Defendant has the right to challenge his conviction and sentence on "direct appeal." This means that Defendant has the right to ask a higher court (the "appeals court") to look at what happened in this case and, if the appeals court finds that the trial court or the parties made certain mistakes, overturn Defendant's conviction or sentence. Also, in some instances, Defendant has the right to file a separate civil lawsuit claiming that serious mistakes were made in this case and that his conviction or sentence should be overturned.

Defendant understands that he has these rights, but now agrees to give them up. Specifically, Defendant agrees that:

- a) He will not challenge his conviction on direct appeal or in any other proceeding, including in a separate civil lawsuit; and
- b) He will not challenge his sentence, including any court orders related to forfeiture, restitution, fines or supervised release, on direct appeal or in any other proceeding, including in a separate civil lawsuit.

The U.S. Attorney agrees not to appeal the imposition of the sentence agreed to by the parties in paragraph 5.

Defendant understands that, by agreeing to the above, he is agreeing that his conviction and sentence will be final when the Court issues a written judgment after the sentencing hearing in this case. That is, after the Court issues a written judgment, Defendant will lose the right to

appeal or otherwise challenge his conviction and sentence regardless of whether he later changes his mind or finds new information that would have led him not to agree to give up these rights in the first place.

Defendant acknowledges that he is agreeing to give up these rights in exchange for concessions the U.S. Attorney is making in this Agreement.

The parties agree that, despite giving up these rights, Defendant keeps the right to later claim that his lawyer rendered ineffective assistance of counsel, or that the prosecutor or a member of law enforcement involved in the case engaged in intentional misconduct serious enough to entitle Defendant to have his conviction or sentence overturned.

7. Forfeiture

Defendant understands that the Court will, upon acceptance of Defendant's guilty plea, enter an order of forfeiture as part of Defendant's sentence, and that the order of forfeiture may include assets directly traceable to Defendant's offense, assets used to facilitate Defendant's offense, substitute assets and/or a money judgment equal to the value of the property derived from, or otherwise involved in, the offense.

The assets to be forfeited specifically include, without limitation, the following:

- a. A Smith & Wesson .380 caliber pistol with an obliterated serial number, which was seized on or about June 24, 2020;
- b. Ten rounds of CBC brand, .380 caliber ammunition, which were seized on or about June 24, 2020; and
- c. Two silver colored .380 caliber magazines, which were seized on or about June 24, 2020.

Defendant admits that these assets are subject to forfeiture on the grounds that they constitute, or are derived from, proceeds of Defendant's offense; and they were involved in Defendant's offense. Defendant agrees to consent to the entry of orders of forfeiture for such property and waives the requirements of Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure 11(b)(1)(J), 32.2, and 43(a) regarding notice of the forfeiture in the charging instrument, advice regarding the forfeiture at the change-of-plea hearing, announcement of the forfeiture at sentencing, and incorporation of the forfeiture in the judgment. Defendant understands and agrees that forfeiture shall not satisfy or affect any fine, lien, penalty, restitution, cost of imprisonment, tax liability or any other debt owed to the United States.

Defendant agrees to assist fully in the forfeiture of the foregoing assets. Defendant agrees to promptly take all steps necessary to pass clear title to the forfeited assets to the United States, including but not limited to executing any and all documents necessary to transfer such title, assisting in bringing any assets located outside of the United States within the jurisdiction of the United States, and taking whatever steps are necessary to ensure that assets subject to forfeiture are not sold, disbursed, wasted, hidden or otherwise made unavailable for forfeiture. Defendant

further agrees (a) not to assist any third party in asserting a claim to the forfeited assets in an ancillary proceeding, and (b) to testify truthfully in any such proceeding.

If the U.S. Attorney requests, Defendant shall deliver to the U.S. Attorney within 30 days after signing this Plea Agreement a sworn financial statement disclosing all assets in which Defendant currently has any interest and all assets over which Defendant has exercised control, or has had any legal or beneficial interest. Defendant further agrees to be deposed with respect to Defendant's assets at the request of the U.S. Attorney. Defendant agrees that the United States Department of Probation may share any financial information about the Defendant with the United States Attorney's Office.

Defendant also agrees to waive all constitutional, legal, and equitable challenges (including direct appeal, habeas corpus, or any other means) to any forfeiture carried out in accordance with this Plea Agreement.

Defendant hereby waives and releases any claims Defendant may have to any vehicles, currency, or other personal property seized by the United States, or seized by any state or local law enforcement agency and turned over to the United States, during the investigation and prosecution of this case, and consents to the forfeiture of all such assets.

8. Civil Liability

This Plea Agreement does not affect any civil liability, including any tax liability, Defendant has incurred or may later incur due to his criminal conduct and guilty plea to the charges specified in Paragraph 1 of this Agreement.

9. Breach of Plea Agreement

Defendant understands that if he breaches any provision of this Agreement, violates any condition of Defendant's pre-trial release or commits any crime following Defendant's execution of this Plea Agreement, Defendant cannot rely upon such conduct to withdraw his guilty plea. Defendant's conduct, however, would give the U.S. Attorney the right to be released from his commitments under this Agreement, to pursue any charges that were, or are to be, dismissed under this Agreement, and to use against Defendant any of Defendant's statements, and any information or materials he provided to the government during investigation or prosecution of his case—even if the parties had entered any earlier written or oral agreements or understandings about this issue.

Defendant also understands that if he breaches any provision of this Agreement or engages in any of the aforementioned conduct, he thereby waives any defenses based on the statute of limitations, constitutional protections against pre-indictment delay, and the Speedy Trial Act, that Defendant otherwise may have had to any charges based on conduct occurring before the date of this Agreement.

10. Who is Bound by Plea Agreement

This Agreement is only between Defendant and the U.S. Attorney for the District of Massachusetts. It does not bind the Attorney General of the United States or any other federal, state, or local prosecuting authorities.

11. Modifications to Plea Agreement

This Agreement can be modified or supplemented only in a written memorandum signed by both parties, or through proceedings in open court.

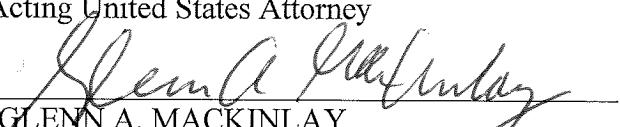
* * *

If this letter accurately reflects the agreement between the U.S. Attorney and Defendant, please have Defendant sign the Acknowledgment of Plea Agreement below. Please also sign below as Witness. Return the original of this letter to Assistant U.S. Attorney Timothy E. Moran.

Sincerely,

NATHANIEL R. MENDELL
Acting United States Attorney

By:


GLENN A. MACKINLAY
Chief, Organized Crime and Gang Unit


TIMOTHY E. MORAN
KAITLIN O'DONNELL
Assistant U.S. Attorneys

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF PLEA AGREEMENT

I have read this letter and discussed it with my attorney. The letter accurately presents my agreement with the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Massachusetts. There are no unwritten agreements between me and the United States Attorney's Office, and no United States government official has made any unwritten promises or representations to me in connection with my guilty plea. I have received no prior offers to resolve this case.

I understand the crime I am pleading guilty to, and the mandatory minimum and maximum penalties for that crime. I have discussed the Sentencing Guidelines with my lawyer and I understand the sentencing ranges that may apply.

I am satisfied with the legal representation my lawyer has given me and we have had enough time to meet and discuss my case. We have discussed the charge against me, possible defenses I might have, the terms of this Agreement and whether I should go to trial.

I am entering into this Agreement freely and voluntarily and because I am in fact guilty of the offense. I believe this Agreement is in my best interest.


ANDRE ECHEVARRIA
Defendant

Date: 8-20-21

I certify that Andre Echevarria has read this Agreement and that we have discussed what it means. I believe Andre Echevarria understands the Agreement and is entering into it freely, voluntarily, and knowingly. I also certify that the U.S. Attorney has not extended any other offers regarding a change of plea in this case.


LEONARD MILLIGAN
Attorney for Defendant

Date: 8/24/21